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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of January)

According to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' latest report, the number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters decreased during January. The land crew total decreased by six to 92, and the marine crew total decreased by one, a net decrease of seven crews, for a total of 114 crews. **This total establishes a new low number of crews and vessels working in the United States since SEG instigated its monthly survey in May of 1974. The previous low (120) was in February, 1990.**

The January total (114) represents a decrease of 6% from last month, a 7% decrease from January, 1990, a 17% decrease from January, 1989, a 42% decrease from January, 1988, a 29% decrease from January, 1987, a 63% decrease from January, 1986, and **a decrease of 74% from the same month in 1985.**

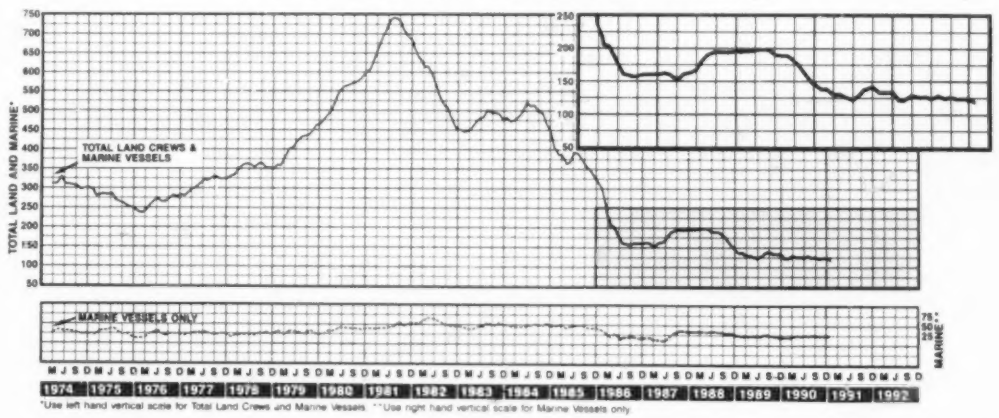
During January, two contractors were operating three of the 85 land crews and one of the nineteen marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Jan.'90	Jan.'89	Jan.'88	Jan.'87	Jan.'86	Jan.'85
	114	121	123	137	197	160	310	439

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Jan. 1990	Jan. 1989	Jan. 1988	Jan. 1987	Jan. 1986	Jan. 1985	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Jan. 1990	Jan. 1989	Jan. 1988	Jan. 1987	Jan. 1986	Jan. 1985
32 Contr's:	85	91	94	99	152	126	240	358	19	20	18	22	26	15	34	39
4 Oil Co's:	7	7	9	13	15	16	31	35	3	3	2	3	4	3	5	7
1 Gov't:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	92	98	103	112	167	142	271	393	22	23	20	25	30	18	39	46

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)


TOTAL LAND AND MARINE*
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
MARINE**
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992
*Use left hand vertical scale for Total Land Crews and Marine Vessels. **Use right hand vertical scale for Marine Vessels only.

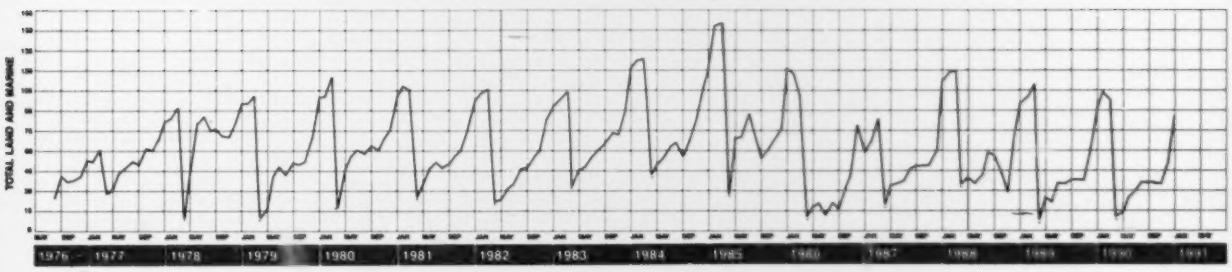
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

January, 1991 (December, 1990 figures in parentheses)

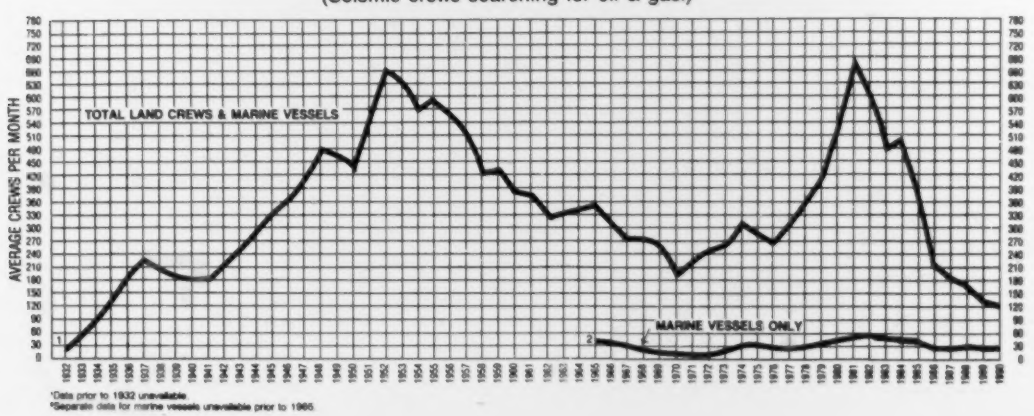
	Land Crews	Marine Crews
27 Contractors:	83 (52)	0 (0)
1 Oil Company:	1 (1)	0 (0)
Totals:	84 (53)	0 (0)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was instigated in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



*Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
*Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1966.